GAI-CIA: 2-3, 12 9/12/69 HW

The Commission's correspondence files should show who draftwd this letter from Rankin. If the written initials are those of Howard Willens (he was contact with Justice, but I do not know whether CIA), or whoever wrote it, why did they wait until so late for formal acknowledgement the CIA had gotten the State docs listed? Why should there have ever been any doubt? And what did all the earlier contact with CIA yeild if at this late date the Commission did not know even the contents of the CIA files on Oswald? Some investigation!

Does someone on the Commission suspect State? CIA?

Can it be that in March CIA supplied the Commission a memo in "Information in CIA's Possession Regarding Lee Harvey Oswald Prior to November 22, 1963" and is so supersecret that it hid from the Commission what it obtained from other federal agencies? Or that it failed to tell the Commission all that it had from other federal agencies?

This si strange and should be suspected of indicating something.

The lists HH sent me do not include withholding on CD 632, the identification of the March memo. My own biblio is at the Archives. However, if the CIA had nothing but what came from other agencies, which is what they say, it would be fascinating if this had been withheld.

But page 12 indicates Stern's examination ofathe CIA file at the CIA turned up (3/27) more than what the CIA had earlier reported to the Commission, including cables from the Mexico City Station after, immediately after, the assassination, on CD 237 (Odum 1). If these messages said anything, did not Stern recall it? If they did contain anything, why did Liebeler have and never get any answer to his questions about the picture? Why did Stern not immediately have these same questions? If they are accurately paraphrased in CD 674 and questions remained, basic questions, then the CIA sent itself pointless cables from Mexico City, which seems unlikely. This page also indicates the CIA did not give the Commission its 10/10 cable indicating Oswald had been to the Soviet Embassy (did they not know he had been to the Cubans?). Why did Stern not "review any materials later than 11/23? Again, some investigators! His review of earlier than 11/23 revealled nothing, not even that the CIA had held out on the Commission. If the printout included "no item listed which we have not been given" - the word listed is his and can be taken to indicate a suspicion there were some not listed, why the September question, did they get the listed docs from State? What did Stern do there is he made no list or got none from CIA of what they had?

Taken together, thesethree pages inspire suspicion of known CIA withholding.